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developing agencies, or if it should go to one of the staff or supply departments for test and consideration of its adoption, and final acquirement of title if such action is desirable.

Composing the Advisory Board at present are the following: D. W. Brunton, member Naval Consulting Board and chairman War Committee of Technical Societies; Dr. Graham Edgar, member National Research Council; Colonel James W. Furlow, Quartermaster Department, chief of Motors Division; Colonel J. A. Hornsby, M.C., chief of Hospital Division, Surgeon General's Office; Lieutenant Colonel Morgan L. Brett, Ordnance Department, Engineering Branch; Lieutenant Colonel Robert A. Millikan, S.C., chief of Science and Research Division; Lieutenant Colonel N. H. Slaughter, S.C., chief of Radio Development Section; Major Joseph A. Mauborgne, S.C., chief of Electrical Engineering Section.

When completed the board will have 12 to 15 members to cover fully all of the various technical problems which may come before it.

In testing and developing inventions and in considering problems presented by staff departments, the Advisory Board works in connection with a number of agencies. Among them are the following: National Research Council; Bureau of Standards; War Committee of National Technical Societies (this committee consists of two members detailed from each of the 10 important technical societies in the United States); laboratories and shops of the staff and supply departments of the Army; Patent Office; Aircraft Production Board; all Army service schools; C. L. Norton, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.; Dr. Charles P. Steinmetz, General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y.; A. H. Beyer, chairman committee on testing laboratory, Columbia University, Broadway and 117th Street, New York City; R. R. Abbott, metallurgist, Peerless Motor Car Co., Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. John A. Matthews, president Halcomb Steel Co., Syracuse, N. Y.; Knox Taylor, president Taylor-Wharton Iron & Steel Co., High Bridge, N. J.; Howard D. Colman, Baber-Colman Co., Rockford, Ill.; Preston S. Miller, Electrical Testing Labora-

tories, Eightieth Street and East End Avenue, New York City; Herbert Fisher Moore, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.; L. F. Miller, metallurgist, Mitchell Moore Co., 1832 Asylum Avenue, Racine, Wis.; E. J. Okey, the Timken Roller Bearing Co., Canton, Ohio; Dr. Aleš Hrdlička, curator division of physical anthropology, United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Any person desiring to submit an invention for consideration, test, sale or development should do so by letter, giving in order the following information: Name and object of the invention; any claim for superiority or novelty; any results obtained by actual experiment; whether the invention is patented; whether remuneration is expected; whether the invention has been before any other agency; whether the writer is owner or agent; the number of inclosures with the letter. A written description and sketches or drawings of sufficient detail to afford a full understanding of the cases should also be submitted. Should the invention be an explosive or other chemical combination, the ingredients and processes of mixture should be stated.

The Inventions Section will not bear the expense of preparation of drawings and descriptions, nor advance funds for personal or travelling expenses of inventors.

Any matter submitted will be treated as confidential. The inventor will be notified of each step taken during the investigation of his invention. All communications should be addressed: Inventions Section, General Staff, Army War College, Washington, D. C.

THE VOLUNTEER MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

DR. FRANKLIN MARTIN, member of the advisory commission and chairman of the general medical board of the Council of National Defense, authorizes the statement that following out the plans for organizing the volunteer medical service corps, to enlist the services of physicians ineligible for camp or field duty, the medical section of the Council of National Defense is sending to several thousand doctors a letter which says in part:

The Council of National Defense has authorized and directed the medical section of the council to

organize the physicians of the country who are ineligible for membership in the medical reserve corps on account of physical disability, over-age (55), civic or institutional needs, into the volunteer medical service corps. The members of this corps will be classified according to their ability to serve and will render aid to existing governmental agencies upon request of the Army, Navy, Public Health Service, American Red Cross, or the Council of National Defense.

It is hoped that every physician who, for any of the reasons enumerated above, is unable to enroll in the Medical Reserve Corps, will join the volunteer medical service corps. Since you have already indicated your desire to serve the government by applying for a commission in the Medical Reserve Corps you are among the first to be sent an application blank which it is hoped you will fill out and return immediately to this office.

The blank provides for details as to reason for ineligibility to the Medical Reserve Corps as to educational and professional experience and other details. The fact is also recognized that rejected applicants for service in the Medical Reserve Corps may overcome the physical defects that led to rejection, and may therefore become eligible, or that the essential public or institutional needs may become less important as the extreme needs of the Army and Navy become apparent. Each physician is asked, therefore, to pledge himself to apply for a commission in the Medical Reserve Corps if at any time he becomes eligible.

With the letter goes a leaflet setting forth the rules of the organization. The general management of the Volunteer Medical Service Corps is vested in a central governing board, which is a committee of the general medical board of the Council of National Defense, and the state governing boards consist of the state committees, medical section, Council of National Defense.

The procedure for joining is simple. The applicant returns his filled blank to the central governing board in Washington, and it is then referred to the proper state executive committee for its recommendations as to the qualifications of the applicant and as to the kind of work for which he seems most fitted.

The central governing board comprises the following: Dr. Edward P. Davis, president,

Philadelphia; Dr. Henry H. Sherk, vice-president, Pasadena; Dr. John D. McLean, acting secretary, Washington; Dr. Edward H. Bradford, Boston; Dr. Truman W. Brophy, Chicago; Dr. Duncan Eve, Sr., Nashville; Dr. William Duffield Robinson, Philadelphia; Dr. George David Stewart, New York City; Dr. Franklin Martin, Chicago, and Dr. F. F. Simpson, Pittsburgh, are members *ex officio*.

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

THE President has issued the following executive order:

The National Research Council was organized in 1916 at the request of the President by the National Academy of Sciences, under its congressional charter, as a measure of national preparedness. The work accomplished by the council in organizing research and in securing cooperation of military and civilian agencies in the solution of military problems demonstrates its capacity for larger service. The National Academy of Sciences is therefore requested to perpetuate the National Research Council, the duties of which shall be as follows:

1. In general, to stimulate research in the mathematical, physical and biological sciences, and in the application of these sciences to engineering, agriculture, medicine and other useful arts, with the object of increasing knowledge, of strengthening the national defense, and of contributing in other ways to the public welfare.
2. To survey the larger possibilities of science, to formulate comprehensive projects of research, and to develop effective means of utilizing the scientific and technical resources of the country for dealing with these projects.
3. To promote cooperation in research, at home and abroad, in order to secure concentration of effort, minimize duplication, and stimulate progress; but in all cooperative undertakings to give encouragement to individual initiative as fundamentally important to the advancement of science.
4. To serve as a means of bringing American and foreign investigators into active cooperation with the scientific and technical services of the War and Navy Departments and with those of the civil branches of the government.
5. To direct the attention of scientific and technical investigators to the present importance of military and industrial problems in connection with the war, and to aid in the solution of these problems by organizing specific researches.